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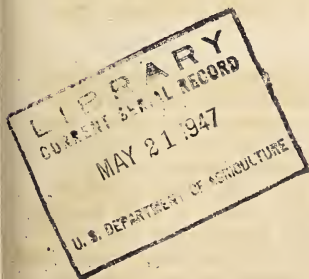
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FOR RELEASE

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L A T E N E W S

Ceylon's tea exports this year may be only slightly less than last season's record figure. Production for 1947 is placed at over 290 million pounds, with local consumption estimated at about 15 to 20 million. Last year's record exports of 290 million pounds were sharply above the average (1934-38) of 219.6 million. Next to India, Ceylon is the world's most important tea-exporting country. The United Kingdom has contracted for 93.5 million pounds of tea from Ceylon this year. All control is abolished on the 1947-48 crop. Production is expected to be at a high level for the next 2 years.

The United Kingdom-Dominion Wool Disposals, Ltd. has cancelled the Bradford wool sale scheduled for June 9 and instead a sale is to be held at London that week. Joint Organization offerings will total 28,000 bales. Many growers' consignments did not arrive in time for the London April sales. The Liverpool sale commencing June 2 was not affected by this arrangement, but the London sales listed to start on June 30 will be postponed one week.

Manchuria's soybean production, which dropped last year materially below the 1935-39 average, may get a boost. The incentive: higher soybean prices in relation to other crops. This ratio is now one to one, compared with one to two last year and one and one-half to one in prewar. Until 1942 Manchuria ranked next to China as a world producer of soybeans and had almost a complete monopoly of world exports of both seed and oil. But in 1946, as a result of wartime expansion in output, the United States moved into second place as a producer.

The Netherlands has agreed to supply the United Kingdom with such small surplus quantities of cheese, condensed milk, eggs, and bacon as can be spared. These shipments may not go very far toward relieving shortages of such commodities in the United Kingdom, but they will be the first step in restoration of the Netherlands to its prewar position as Britain's second most important source of supply for dairy products on the Continent. Under the agreement Dutch representatives were assured of a market for their exportable surpluses of these products until 1949.

The British Government plans to aid recovery of agricultural production, following one of the severest winters in history. Relief measures will include: (1) Acreage payments for certain crops sown or planted not later than July 15 on land which has been flooded, and could not be expected to produce a normal crop. (2) Higher guaranteed prices for spring-sown crops (barley, oats, potatoes, sugar beets, and flaxseed) and milk as a temporary measure to compensate the farmer for the risk of reduced yields owing to late sowing. (3) A revised formula for payment of subsidies to hill farmers who have suffered heavy sheep losses (country's total placed at over 4 million), including a guaranteed minimum payment and an advance on 1948 subsidies according to loss sustained. (4) Retention of up to 20 percent of grains grown in 1948 by farmers for feeding their own stock.

WORLD COTTON-CROP ESTIMATE REVISED DOWNWARD

World cotton production in 1946-47 is estimated at 21,500,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), compared with 20,650,000 bales in the preceding year, and a prewar (1935-36/1939-40) average of 31,000,000 bales. This year's crop is the second smallest in 23 years. The current crop did not reach earlier expectations largely as a result of unfavorable weather conditions in the United States and in the Southern Hemisphere. Crops in the latter areas were just being planted when the last world estimate of 22,050,000 bales was released by this Office on November 4, 1946.

An indicated increase of about 4 percent in world acreage from 56,420,000 acres in 1945-46 to 58,480,000 in 1946-47 was shared by nearly all the major-producing countries, with negative results in some cases because of lower yields resulting from unfavorable weather. The greatest percentage increases in acreage were reported in Egypt, Brazil, and the Soviet Union.

In the United States, yields were reduced by excessive rain and heavy boll weevil damage in the central and eastern parts of the cotton belt, and by drought followed by heavy rainfall in Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. The 1946 crop of 8,640,000 bales was 375,000 less than in 1945 and was the smallest since 1921, despite a small increase in acreage over the 1945 figure.

A 10-percent increase in acreage was reported in Brazil, but yields remained low as in the previous year because of excessive rains during the late growing and early picking seasons. The 1946-47 production estimate of 1,575,000 bales is 225,000 above the 1945-46 figure. The season in Argentina was similar with the addition of heavy damage by grasshoppers. In Peru, plant growth was retarded by cool, cloudy weather and yields are expected to be lower although acreage is equal to that in 1945-46.

A 23-percent increase in acreage in Egypt resulted in only a 12-percent rise in production to 1,210,000 bales. Acreage restrictions remained in effect in 1946 but were moderated slightly. Reduced yields were attributed to high-flood water and cotton leaf-worm damage.

Acreage and production figures for India are incomplete, but little increase is indicated in comparison with the small crops of 1944-45, and 1945-46. The food production campaign maintained since 1943 was chiefly responsible for the small cotton acreage. Both acreage and production in China have been gradually increasing since the war ended, but part of the upward revision in figures for 1945 and 1946 represents estimates for Manchuria, not available when the last report was published.

Official sources in the Soviet Union report that cotton from the 1946 crop, in the hands of the Government at the end of November 1946 amounted to over 2,200,000 bales, or 500,000 above the 1945 production estimate. The 1946 acreage of 3,200,000 acres was approximately equal to the goal set earlier in the year, and represented an increase of 205,000 acres over the 1945 figure.

COTTON: world acreage and production by continents and countries,
average 1935-39, annual 1943-46

Continent and country	Acreage						Production a/					
	Year beginning August 1			Year beginning August 1			Year beginning August 1			Year beginning August 1		
	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	Average 1935-39	1943	1944
	1,000 acres	acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
North America:												
El Salvador	7	34	32	24	27	27	5	19	16	11	17	17
Guatemala	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	3	3
Mexico	725	1,010	963	904	843	843	334	515	472	434	460	460
Nicaragua	9	4	4	5	1	1	5	3	3	4	1	1
United States	27,788	21,652	20,009	17,211	17,615	17,615	13,149	11,427	12,230	9,015	8,640	8,640
British West Indies	20	16	16	-	-	-	5	3	4	3	6	6
Haiti	2	10	-	-	-	-	22	13	11	11	2	2
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	-	-
Total North America c/	28,647	22,785	21,078	18,240	18,533	18,533	13,523	11,984	12,741	9,483	9,131	9,131
Europe:												
Bulgaria	85	48	48	57	80	80	35	8	11	10	22	22
Greece	168	90	80	67	127	127	65	12	34	27	46	46
Italy	56	34	37	34	41	41	21	11	9	9	12	12
Rumania d/	8	110	128	110	102	102	2	12	22	20	11	11
Spain	46	129	148	90	159	159	10	21	27	7	23	23
Yugoslavia	8	15	15	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Total Europe (excluding U.S.S.R.) e/	372	418	439	387	524	524	136	69	108	75	118	118
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5,087	-	2,865	2,995	3,200	3,200	3,430	-	-	1,700	2,240	2,240
Asia:												
Cyprus	11	7	7	-	-	-	3	2	2	1	2	2
Iran	442	297	290	303	198	198	171	78	81	92	65	65
Iraq	53	28	25	25	25	25	11	18	2	2	3	3
Syria	93	35	40	43	49	49	31	16	13	20	24	24
Turkey	667	618	644	572	690	690	275	246	272	251	-	-
Afghanistan	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	20	20	20	-	-
Burma	428	387	-	226	134	134	97	90	85	32	17	17
China (includes Manchuria)	7,038	5,400	5,600	6,300	6,500	6,500	2,855	1,500	1,600	1,820	1,930	1,930
French Indochina	36	-	-	-	-	-	6	8	8	-	-	-
India g/	24,204	21,086	14,843	14,478	15,000	15,000	4,643	4,401	2,996	2,900	3,000	3,000
Korea	564	776	752	705	-	-	180	205	228	163	90	90
Netherlands Indies	27	15	40	10	10	10	9	7	11	2	2	2
Philippine Islands	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	8	-	-	-
Siam	16	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	17	-	-
Total Asia (excluding U.S.S.R.) e/	33,802	28,884	22,865	22,905	23,238	23,238	8,344	6,596	5,348	5,340	5,471	5,471

South America:

Argentina	770	913	887	813	£/ 979	289	553	332	285	360
Brazil	5,562	6,200	6,000	5,000	5,500	1,956	2,700	1,686	1,575	1,575
Colombia	98	124	23	-	-	23	26	30	-	-
Ecuador	40	39	-	17	17	13	8	8	7	10
Paraguay	111	104	119	124	160	40	72	40	44	57
Peru	428	326	326	346	-	384	310	325	329	296
Venezuela	50	69	58	-	-	11	16	16	18	-
Total South America c/	7,061	7,777	7,557	6,497	7,200	2,716	3,685	2,377	2,063	2,345

Africa and Oceania:

Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	439	319	347	332	336	248	175	290	204	226
Belgian Congo	874	-	863	-	865	172	141	175	174	190
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	13	14	13	4	4
Nyasaland	84	-	-	-	-	12	7	7	8	8
Tanganyika	-	-	-	-	-	50	32	35	35	34
Uganda	1,477	1,234	1,072	1,146	1,233	281	160	228	191	229
Egypt	1,821	740	885	1,020	1,259	1,893	740	962	1,082	1,210
French Equatorial Africa	390	-	667	-	-	40	79	102	115	2
French Morocco	1	8	7	4	-	5/	2	3	-	2
French West Africa	-	-	-	-	-	29	14	21	-	-
Mozambique	-	-	-	596	-	b/ 33	94	92	96	105
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	-	36	21	13	31	-
Angola	73	-	-	-	-	13	23	29	20	-
Australia	53	16	7	8	6	11	6	1	2	2
Total Africa and Oceania g/	6,179	5,116	5,071	5,396	5,785	2,839	1,516	1,976	1,989	2,195
Total World	81,148	68,080	59,875	56,420	58,480	30,988	25,350	24,150	20,660	21,500

Compiled from official sources, publications of The International Institute of Agriculture, and credible trade sources, and includes estimates by this Office.

a/ United States production in bales of 500 pounds gross (480 pounds net); others in bales of 478 pounds net through 1945 and 480 pounds thereafter.

b/ Preliminary.

c/ All subtotals include rough estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above and allowances for other figures not available.

d/ Figures from 1945 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes.

e/ Production figures apparently do not include estimates of unpressed cotton consumed by Indian mills and cotton consumed in hand-spinning industries, usually amounting to a combined total of 600,000 to 800,000 bales.

f/ Planted area.

g/ Less than 500 bales.

h/ Exports.

WORLD SUGAR PRODUCTION SHOWS INCREASE

World production of beet and cane sugar for the 1946-47 season is now estimated at 30,646,000 short tons (raw value), compared with 26,304,000 tons in 1945-46 and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 34,783,000 tons. The largest increase was in North America, including the West Indies, and in Europe. Modest increases are reported for South America, Oceania, and Africa. Asia is the only Continent showing a decline, and it is slight. The return to more normal conditions in Europe made possible a larger sugar-beet output. In North America and the West Indies growing conditions for production of both cane and beet sugar have continued favorable.

The anticipated 16-percent increase in production this season is not expected to provide sufficient sugar to meet total world requirements but generally will provide somewhat more for consumption than in last season.

In North and Central America including the West Indies, the present outlook is for a production of 10,897,000 tons, compared with 8,939,000 tons in 1945-46 and 7,945,000 in 1944-45. The largest increases are reported in Cuba, the United States, and Puerto Rico; however, nearly all countries reported slight increases. The near-record Cuban crop of 6,000,000 tons is above that reported in December 1946, and reflects the favorable harvesting season which is just drawing to a close. In 1945-46, 4,476,000 tons were produced in Cuba.

The recovery of the European sugar-beet industry has been substantial with production now expected to total 5,484,000 tons, compared with 3,852,000 tons in 1945-46 and a prewar (1935-39) average of 7,408,000 tons. German production will be near 50 percent of the prewar average, while Belgium and the Netherlands are back to normal. In the United Kingdom, production is expected to exceed the prewar average by 25 percent.

Production in all South American countries, except in Surinam and Uruguay, which are very minor producers, output is reported larger than in last year. The entire Continent is now expected to produce 3,073,000 tons, compared with 2,621,000 in 1945-46 and a prewar average (1935-39) of 2,410,000 tons. Brazil, historically the largest producer, reports a probable production of 1,520,000 tons, compared with 1,320,000 last season.

Production data thus far available on Asia indicates a decided drop from prewar and a small decline from that of a year ago. The present estimate is 6,569,000 tons, compared with 6,722,000 tons last season and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 10,890,000 tons. Recovery of Asia's sugar productive capacity is expected to be slow. War damage in the Netherlands Indies, Philippines, Formosa, and Japan has reduced production in these areas to a small percentage of prewar. It is possible that supplies and production in the Netherlands Indies are larger than shown in the table; however, reliable data are not available. India reports a drop to 5,900,000 tons, compared with 6,033,000 tons last season.

(Text continued on page 350; table follows)

Note: Data for certain countries on the following table obtained from the Statistical Bulletin of the International Sugar Council in London.

SUGAR (Raw Value): Production in specified countries
average 1935-39, annual 1945 and 1946 a/

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946 b/	Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946 b/
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons		1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
North America: (Cane)				Europe: (Beet)			
British Honduras	1	1	1	Austria	196	20	21
Canada (beet)	76	85	90	Belgium	259	155	258
Costa Rica	9	9	10	Bulgaria	24	c/	24
El Salvador	19	22	29	Czechoslovakia	721	493	645
Guatemala	38	64	65	Denmark	257	211	232
Honduras	2	444	2	Eire	89	116	62
Mexico	464	15	571	Finland	13	c/	5
Nicaragua	9	15	16	France	1,059	598	820
Panama including Canal Zone ..	5	7	9	Germany	2,122	850	1,100
United States (beet)	1,520	1,278	1,523	Hungary	179	8	49
United States	474	475	425	Italy	416	21	294
Caribbean:				Netherlands	255	66	259
Antigua	25	30	30	Poland and Danzig	548	c/	415
Barbados	137	127	104	Rumania	129	30	40
Cuba	3,183	4,476	6,000	Spain d/	209	132	207
Dominican Republic	491	504	509	Sweden	340	c/	314
Grenada	1	1	1	Switzerland	12	31	24
Guadeloupe	53	49	55	United Kingdom	527	605	660
Haiti	44	44	44	Yugoslavia	93	38	45
Jamaica	119	199	185	Total (excluding U.S.S.R.)	7,403	3,852	5,484
Martinique	62	26	30				
Puerto Rico	974	910	1,075	U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) e/			
St. Christopher	46	36	47	(beet)	2,887	c/ 1,500	c/ 1,750
St. Lucia and St. Vincent	9	6	8				
Trinidad and Tobago	148	123	146				
Virgin Islands of the U. S. :	6	6	6				
Total	7,801	8,939	10,897				

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDSCANADA'S WHEAT ACREAGE
SEEN SMALLER; BARLEY UP

Canada's wheat and oats acreage will be smaller than in 1946, but barley acreage somewhat larger, according to farmers' intentions at the end of April. The prospective wheat acreage is placed at 25.1 million acres, or 3 percent less than the 1946 area of 25.9 million. Indications point to seeding of about 24.5 million acres of spring wheat to add to the 0.6 million acres of winter wheat reported. Total acreage, though smaller than last year's and the 1935-39 average, would still be above the 1942-46 average of 22.2 million. The reduction from the 1946 acreage would be a million acres less than was recommended at the conference which met in Ottawa early in December to discuss the 1947 agricultural program.

Seeding plans on April 30 called for 12.6 million acres of oats, or about 4 percent less than the 13.2 acres seeded a year ago, whereas the conference had suggested an increase to 14.3 million acres. Barley intentions indicated an area of 7.8 million acres, an increase of over a million acres compared with last year's area, but slightly below the goal. Changes in acreage of oats and barley will occur almost entirely in the Prairie Provinces. The largest barley increase is expected in Saskatchewan with a gain of about 0.5 million acres in prospect and in Alberta, where acreage is expected to increase about 0.4 million acres.

Acreage to be summer fallowed is reported at 18.7 million acres, or only slightly below the 1946 figure of 18.9 million. That figure is still significantly larger than the 1933-39 average of 15.4 million acres, though about 6 percent less than the 1940-46 average.

It is pointed out that acreages actually seeded may vary considerably from intentions, depending on conditions affecting seeding subsequent to April 30. The season is late in all parts of the country except in British Columbia, with less than 10 percent of wheat seeded in the Prairie Provinces by the end of April, compared with from 30 to 60 percent completed at that date of 1946. Moisture conditions were generally favorable, however, and with good seeding weather, the crop could still be in the ground in good time.

Winterkill in Ontario, where the bulk of the fall wheat is grown, amounted to 60,000 acres or 9 percent of the area sown, leaving 611,000 acres for harvest. The condition of the fall wheat on April 30 was placed at 90 percent of the long-time average yields. Fall rye, of which 392,000 acres remained for harvest, was estimated at 98 percent.

BRAZIL'S RICE OUTPUT SHARPLY ABOVE PREWAR 1/

The 1947 rice crop of Brazil, the largest producer in the Western Hemisphere, is forecast at about the same as last year's record, which would be nearly double the prewar output. Favorable weather conditions are reported in the important producing States on acreage nearly as large as last year's. Revised estimates place the 1946 crop at 136 million bushels of rough rice, compared with 66 million during the prewar (1936-40) period, and with the United States record production of 70 million bushels in 1946.

Exportable supplies during 1947 from Brazil's crop, now being harvested, are estimated between 250 and 350 million pounds. Because of the continued shortage of wheat flour, the surplus in 1947 is not expected to be as large as the increase in production over previous years might indicate. Rice exports during 1946 totaled around 400 million pounds, according to preliminary figures. Although this was a record volume exported, and 60 million pounds more than the previous largest exports in 1944, it was less than was generally anticipated from the 1946 harvest.

BRAZIL: Rice (milled) exports by country,
average 1936-40, annual 1942-46

Country of destination	Average : 1936-40	1942	1943	1944	1945 <u>a/</u>	1946 <u>a/</u>
	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds
Argentina	40	b/	0	13	0	0
United Kingdom ..	2	100	121	237	165	353
Germany	8	0	0	0	0	0
Sweden	1	32	14	10	b/	0
Switzerland	2	12	18	14	0	0
France	9	0	0	0	0	0
Union of South ..						
Africa	b/	12	19	43	18	15
Other countries ..	21	26	14	13	12	25
Total	83	182	186	330	195	393

Compiled from official sources.

a/ Preliminary. b/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Rice consumption in Brazil during 1946 is estimated at 700 million pounds more than in 1945, and 1.7 million larger than before the war (1936-40). The marked rise in 1946 rice consumption over the previous year was due to a deficiency in imported supplies of wheat and flour, which were about 1,100 million pounds less than normal. Export prices, determined by quotations specified in the rice purchase agreement between the United Kingdom and Brazil have remained fairly constant. The renewal of this agreement, which expired April 30, is still under consideration. Prices of representative grades in April 1947 were from \$5.76 to \$8.43 per 100 pounds for milled rice. Prices which prevail in 1947 may affect the quantity of rice exported.

1/ A more extensive statement may be obtained upon request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

FATS AND OILSCANADA TO EXCEED
FLAXSEED AREA GOAL

Canadian farmers have indicated that approximately 1.7 million acres, 200,000 acres more than the Government goal, will be sown to flaxseed for harvest in August and September. That would be a 67-percent increase over last year's acreage and if realized would be the largest since the record sowing in 1943. With good yields such plantings could produce 12 to 15 million bushels, the recommended production goal. In 1946, 7.5 million bushels were harvested. The Prairie Provinces will account for most of the expansion this year, although Ontario expects a 50-percent increase over last season's 18,000 acres.

Moisture conditions at the beginning of the 1947 season are generally better than at the same stage of recent years. Fall and winter rains, accompanied by heavy snow falls, have assured good subsoil moisture conditions over the greater part of the western grain belt. Conditions in the dry areas of southwestern Saskatchewan and southeastern Alberta have been considerably improved. The average fall and winter precipitation at the 13 weather reporting stations was 8.60 inches, compared with the normal of 5.62 inches.

DUTCH EAST INDIES
COPRA EXPORTS RISE

Copra exports from the Netherlands East Indies continue at a high level. Exports for April are estimated at approximately 27,600 short tons, compared with the revised March figure of almost 30,000, the largest for any month since prewar. January-April exports totaled 72,000 tons, and shipments for the year are expected to reach 220,000 tons, about a third of the prewar rate. During the past 2 months special efforts were made to clear out surplus stocks amounting to over 55,000 tons. Twelve ships were routed to the copra area for this purpose.

BULGARIA PLANS RISE
IN OILSEED ACREAGE

Bulgaria plans to increase sunflower-seed and hempseed acreage in 1947 to 494,000 and 35,000 acres, respectively, record areas for both crops. For sunflower-seed, this would represent an increase of 37 percent over last year's sowings, and 20 percent over the prewar average. The prospective hempseed acreage would be an increase of 117 percent over 1946 and 78 percent over the prewar average.

This is part of an over-all economic plan of the Ministry of Agriculture for 1947 and 1948, which would increase crop production over that of 1939 by approximately 21 percent in 1947 and 38 percent in 1948. Part of the increase would be due to the addition of fertile South Dobrudja to Bulgaria. Difficulties to further increases are the short supply of

fertilizer, degeneration of seed, depreciation of equipment, and low crop yields. Various measures are to be taken, however, to improve the efficiency of agriculture, including the use of better equipment, and improved utilization of fertilizer. The realization of these objectives will depend to a great extent on the ability of the Government to import supplies.

TOBACCO

U. S. TOBACCO EXPORTS RISE IN FIRST QUARTER

United States exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first quarter of 1947 were about 158.7 million pounds (declared weight), or 10 percent greater than those for the corresponding quarter of last year. The declared valuation this year was \$92,766,000 as against \$76,633,000 in 1946. For the 1947 exports, the average declared value per pound was 58.5 cents, compared with 53.4 cents for the 1946 quarter, and with an average of only about 30 cents for the calendar years 1935-39. Flue-cured shipments totaled 141.6 million pounds in the first quarter of 1947. Burley exports amounted to about 6 million pounds, or nearly four times those during January-March, 1946.

UNITED STATES: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco, declared weight,
January-March 1947, with comparisons

Type	1947 a/					January-
	:					March
	:					1947
	:					Total
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	:	1,000
	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	:	pounds
	:	:	:	:	:	:
Flue-cured	128,568	48,433	49,886	43,330	:	141,649
Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured ..	2,475	1,334	1,583	744	:	3,661
Virginia fire-cured	932	1,133	345	480	:	1,958
Burley	1,604	1,930	1,548	2,478	:	5,956
Maryland	1,017	403	396	494	:	1,293
One Sucker	223	35	149	161	:	345
Green River	954	240	113	189	:	542
Black Fat, etc.	942	377	189	315	:	881
Cigar	1,806	409	220	400	:	1,029
Perique	11	3	0	3	:	6
Stems, trimmings, and scrap	4,936	763	182	424	:	1,369
Total	143,468	55,060	54,611	49,018	:	158,639
	:	:	:	:	:	:

Records of the Bureau of the Census.

a/ Preliminary.

For the January-March period flue-cured exports went to some 50 countries and dependencies. The United Kingdom remained the most important market, taking 73.8 million pounds during the quarter, or 52 percent of total flue-cured exports. The Netherlands with 19.4 million pounds moved into second

place. Australia took 7.2 million, and China 7 million. Other markets of importance were Belgium 5 million, India 4.9 million, Denmark 4.3 million, and Eire, 3.3 million pounds.

Burley exports during the first quarter of this year amounted to nearly 6 million pounds. Italy was the principal market, taking 1.8 million. The Netherlands with 1.1 million ranked next. Other markets of importance were Sweden, Belgium, Mexico, Czechoslovakia, and Egypt. Burley first quarter exports went to some 30 countries and dependencies.

Exports of Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured for the opening quarter of this year were shipped chiefly to Switzerland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Exports of Virginia fire-cured were principally to Sweden, Belgium, Portugal, and the Netherlands. Total exports of fire-cured leaf were about 65 percent larger than for the first quarter of 1946.

Maryland leaf this year went almost entirely to Switzerland, as did the exports in the first quarter of last year. Green-River exports were directed mainly to the United Kingdom. African countries took most of the Black Fat and One Sucker. Cigar-leaf exports, running considerably below last year's, went chiefly to Europe. China took more than one-half the stems, trimmings and scrap, which also were much below the 1946 quarter shipments.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

ARGENTINA TESTING NEW POTATO VARIETIES

During the past year, the Argentine Government has announced the development of three new potato varieties which appear to be particularly adapted to Argentine conditions. It has also arranged for the establishment of experimental plots in Terra del Fuego to study the possibilities for seed-potato production in that area, and has assumed the function of importing seed potatoes into the country.

The three new varieties were chosen from about 3,500 seedling selections which were provided by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1940; They are reputed to have a longer rest period than the Katahdin and to be equal or superior in yield and plant vigor.

The leading area of seed-potato production is in the southeast region of Buenos Aires Province. Seed stock is also produced in the Province of Mendoza. Katahdin is the most important variety. Difficulty is experienced in producing seed suitable for second crop plantings in the Rosario area, thus the Argentine Government is especially interested in the possibilities of developing new areas for seed-potato production. In Argentina, a certification service, patterned after the regulations of the State of Maine, was started in 1936.

The present program is designed to reduce the dependence of the Argentine industry upon imported seed potatoes. Since several years will be required

for further testing of the new varieties and development of new areas, Argentina is expected to continue the importation of a substantial volume of seed stock.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

BEEF SUPPLIES TIGHT IN HAVANA MARKETS

Beef continues to be virtually unobtainable in Havana except at high black-market prices. Elsewhere in Cuba, beef can be purchased at above ceiling, but not at exorbitant prices. Relatively large importations of salt pork, salt codfish, eggs, and jerked beef during the first quarter are believed to have lessened the hardship on the individual Havana consumer. Cattle owners and a growing number of processors and retailers are asking for complete decontrol of livestock and livestock products. Marketing of cattle will probably increase somewhat during June, July, and August, as the rainy season begins and beef cattle are fattened on pasture.

According to late press reports, Cuba has exempted from import duties and taxes, live-beef cattle, sheep and goats, as well as beef and mutton, fresh, chilled, or pickled, imported from countries free from foot-and-mouth disease. Present Cuban ceiling prices are to apply on all domestic sales of imported cattle and meat.

ARGENTINA GRANTS LOANS ON COARSE CROSSBREDS

The National Bank of Argentina has decided to grant loans on coarse wool 1946 and 1947 clips (Argentine grades 4, 5, and 6, equivalent to the United States qualities 35's to 44's). Grants are authorized up to a maximum of approximately \$30,000 (100,000 pesos) for each applicant. The program specified loans up to 85 percent of the value of the quotation on the market at the time the wool is stored in the warehouse and up to 75 percent when stored on the farm. Loans will be payable in 180 days with option of a renewal for another 180 days.

Coarse crossbred wool has been accumulating recently as quotations have been higher than United States buyers are willing to meet. Stocks in commercial hands as of March 1 totaled 180 million pounds, compared with only 37 million pounds on the same date last year and an average of 26 million for the five preceding years.

In addition to commercial stocks it is probable that there is some accumulation on farms. At the beginning of the new season October 1, 1946, stocks of coarse crossbreds on farms were estimated at about 55 million pounds, compared with approximately 170 million pounds on the same date of 1945.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERS

WORLD COTTON CROP

(Continued from page 338)

NOTE: A more extensive statement may be obtained on request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report the committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, A. W. Palmer, P. K. Norris, C. H. Barber, O. K. Moore, R. T. Moyer, and Lazar Volin.

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths and qualities in specified markets, last business day, week ending May 10, 1947

: Equiva- :		: Equiva- :	
Market location	Price in : lent	Market location,	Price in : lent
kind, and quality	foreign : U.S.	kind, and quality	foreign : U.S.
	currency : cents		currency : cents
	: per lb.:		: per lb.
Alexandria	:	:Buenos Aires	:
Ashmouni, Good	: 40.00:	: 33.34: Type B	: 2,190.00: 29.58
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	: 37.50:	: 31.26:Lima	:
Giza 7, Good	: 42.00:	: 35.01: Tanguis, Type 5	: a/160.00: 24.27
Giza 7, F.G.F.	: 39.00:	: 32.51: Pima, Type 1	: (not quoted)
Karnak, Good	: 41.00:	: 34.18:Recife	:
Karnak, F.G.F.	: 38.50:	: 32.09: Mata, Type 5	: 125.00: 20.57
Bombay	:	: Sertao, Type 5	: 120.00: 19.74
Jarila, Fine	: 430.00:	: 16.54:Sao Paulo	:
Broach, Fine	: 495.00:	: 19.04: Sao Paulo, Type5:	: 152.50: 25.09
Sind American, Fine	: 542.00:	: 20.85:Torreón	:
Punjab, " 289-, Fine	: 618.00:	: 23.78: Midgling, 15/16":	: 139.50: 28.31
Kampala, East African:	: 920.00:	: 35.39:	:

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad. Units of currency and weight: Alexandria, tallant per kantar (99.05 lb.); Bombay, rupee per candy (784 lb.); Buenos Aires, peso per metric ton (2204.6 lb.); Lima, sol per Spanish quintal (101.4 lb.); Recife and Sao Paulo, cruzeiro per arroba (33.07 lb.); Torreón, peso per Spanish quintal, a/ Nominal.

SUGAR

WORLD SUGAR PRODUCTION

(Continued from page 341)

NOTE: A more extensive statement may be obtained on request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural

production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report the committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, Gustave Burmeister, Lois Bacon, Kathryn Wylie, and Karl J. Pelcar.

MISCELLANEOUS

LATIN AMERICAN COFFEE EXPORTS ABOVE PREWAR

Coffee exports last year from the principal producing countries of the Americas exceeded the prewar average for the first time since 1939. During the calendar year 1946, exports totaled 25.2 million bags of coffee, compared with the prewar (1935-39) average of 23.7 million bags. Significant increases are shown in the quantities of coffee exported to the United States and to other Western Hemisphere countries. Exports to the United States increased from a prewar average of 13.4 million bags annually to 19.6 million bags in 1946, or about 32 percent; and exports to other countries of the Western Hemisphere more than doubled. Shipments to Europe of 3.7 million bags were only 40 percent of the prewar average of 9 million bags annually.

Percentage-wise Brazil regained more of its prewar European coffee market than did the other American producing countries, exporting 54 percent of the prewar average, or 3.1 million bags. Colombia's 1946 coffee exports to Europe were about 25 percent of the prewar figure, and those from the other American producing countries only 16 percent.

COFFEE: Exports of principal American producing countries, 1946 with comparisons

	Average 1935-39				1946 b/			
	Brazil	Colombia	Other a/	Total	Brazil	Colombia	Other	Total
	bags c/	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
United States	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Other Western Hemisphere...	8,331	3,060	1,991	13,382	11,188	5,246	3,126	19,560
Europe	479	150	88	717	1,054	195	305	1,554
All other.....	5,675	761	2,584	9,020	3,062	190	421	3,673
Total.....	610	2	14	626	370	30	63	463
	15,095	3,973	4,677	23,745	15,674	5,661	3,915	25,250

Official statistics and foreign service reports.

a/ Includes Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and Venezuela. b/ Preliminary. Data are for the calendar year, with exception of Venezuela and Ecuador for which exports are available for the first 9 months and first 11 months of the year respectively. c/ Bags of 132 pounds.

